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12 February 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Headquarters Briefing of Frank M. Slatinshek

1. Frank M. Slatinshek, Counsel, House Armed Services Committee and the staff member designated to handle CIA Retirement Act amendments, attended a briefing at the Agency for the primary purpose of acquainting him with the background, purpose, and foreseeable legislative needs of the CIA Retirement Act. The attached program, including Agency attendees, was substantially followed. Colonel White hosted at lunch.

2. Highlights of the session which started at 10:00 a.m. and ended at 2:00 p.m.:

a. Mr. Wattles presented an overview of the Agency's personnel programs and policies. Mr. Slatinshek was particularly interested in identifying the decision points within the Agency for allocating personnel resources and grades and the extent of the Bureau of the Budget's interest and authority in this area.

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b. During Mr. [redacted] presentation on Agency organization, Slatinshek was particularly interested in the existence and independence of the Inspector General function; communications (in general, in light of notable failures in military communications and, particularly, use of Agency communications by State and others); and the interrelationship between the Office of National Estimates and the United States Intelligence Board.

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the Agency. Mr. Maury also discussed the background of the Director's recent letter to Senator Symington which was published in the Congressional Record. Slatinshek appeared to appreciate the susceptibility of misinterpretation as well as the sensitivity involved had the letter not been categorical.

3. Slatinshek appeared to readily absorb the evolution of the CIA Retirement Act, the problems inherent in its ultimate enactment and the desirability of considering alternate approaches in keeping it up-to-date with major improvements enacted for other Federal staff retirement systems. He felt that the Committee members would be jealous of their jurisdictional prerogatives and against enlarging the Director's authority to permit him to adopt features of other retirement systems. He said this would also cause problems on the House floor and very serious problems in the Senate. However, he personally felt that with appropriate safeguards the Committee would permit us to ride piggyback on Administration-approved amendments to the Civil Service Retirement Act if this could be arranged with the Post Office and Civil Service Committee, and with the understanding that that Committee would not delve into ungermane matters. As an alternative he also appeared to be willing to consider the possibility of incorporating civil service changes into the CIA Act by reference. He suggested that these matters be taken up in a Subcommittee briefing, although he recognizes such action now would be premature in the absence of active consideration in the Congress of a major change in the Civil Service retirement system.

4. The 14 possible amendments to the CIA Retirement Act, as attached, were briefly reviewed with Slatinshek. He had no major problem with them, but was interested in their actuary impact on the CIA Retirement Fund.

5. Slatinshek was interested in the Director's authority to terminate personnel and the effectiveness of present statutes in deterring the unauthorized publication of classified material.

6. Slatinshek proposed that we give consideration to briefing the CIA Subcommittee on the Agency's general tasks, problems, and efforts. In this connection he views the Subcommittee as the Agency's Board of Directors. It was clear that, while not in as great detail, he was thinking of something along the lines of the Agency proceeding as if it were seeking an authorization for appropriations. He felt that there will be a continuing effort to create a Joint Committee on Intelligence and that the members of our Subcommittee are not as well-informed on the Agency as they should be. Mr. Warner replied that the Agency has been trying to do just this and Slatinshek recognized

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that the problem might be on the Committee's side. This matter was again raised at lunch and Colonel White restated the Agency's past and continuing interest in briefing the Subcommittee more frequently and more fully on Agency programs, but distinguished between this type of briefing and the budget briefing of Chairman Mahon's Subcommittee.

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8. Conclusion. It appears that the briefing was very profitable both for Mr. Slatinshek and the Agency. While completely understanding and friendly, he asked incisive questions throughout which reflected his interest and thorough competence.

SIGNED

25X1 [redacted]
Assistant Legislative Counsel

Attachments

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